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East Germany

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REPORT

COUNTRY

Military Training of the SED-Functionaries

TOPIC

25X1

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE PREPARED 24 August 1955

DATE OBTAINED

REFERENCES

PAGES

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ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

1 directive (on ditto)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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Military training of the Party functionaries.

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1. All male functionaries of the SED Central Committee, of the Bezirk and Kreis Headquarters, who are forty years old or younger will undergo military training within the next two years.
2. The military training of the Party functionaries will be carried out in four training courses consisting of 8 weeks' summer camp each. The first course will take place between 1 August and 30 September 1955 (about 1,200 members).

The second course will take place between 1 May and 30 June 1956

The third " " " between 1 July and 31 August 1956

The Fourth " " " between 1 September and 31 October 1956.

The aim of the training course is to acquire the qualifications of a platoon leader and the commission of a reserve officer.

3. The departmental heads of the Central Committee and the Bureaus of the Bezirk and Kreis Headquarters are ordered to make suggestions concerning the call-up of the Party functionaries. It is their responsibility to take suitable steps which guarantee that the functions of the various departments are carried on at the normal level.

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4. The organisational measures have to be carried out according to the enclosed directive.

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Comment. A translation of the abovementioned directive is attached in the annex.

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Annex

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Directive for the execution of the decision of the Central Committee Secretariat concerning the military training of the political functionaries of the party organizations.

The tasks of the Party require from all political functionaries of the party organization certain military knowledge and abilities. For that reason the Secretariat of the Central Committee has decided on 22 June 1955, that all male political functionaries of the party organization who are 40 years old or younger will undergo basic military training before the end of 1956 (Members of the Central Committee, Bezirk and Kreis Headquarters, full-time secretaries of large industrial enterprises, teachers at Party colleges).

This decision involves the following tasks for the Bezirk and Kreis Headquarters:

1. The Bureaus of the Bezirk and Kreis Headquarters will determine how many political functionaries in their Bezirk and their Kreis respectively, are subject to this military training. They will determine which members of the Bezirk and Kreis Headquarters, which full-time secretaries and full-time functionaries of the large industrial enterprises, and which teachers at the Bezirk and Kreis Party Colleges will be delegated to the first training course.

The first course will comprise a quarter of the political functionaries who are forty or younger, including the secretaries of the Bezirk and Kreis Headquarters. According to the decision of the Central Committee, no exceptions will be made. Only those functionaries who have already undergone a three-year military training in the KVP and possess the commission of a platoon leader will be exempt from this military training.

2. All Bureaus of the Bezirk and Kreis Headquarters, in cooperation with the Bezirk and Kreis registration offices, will immediately take the necessary steps so that the medical examination of the functionaries selected for the first course can take place between 5 and 10 July. It is recommended that they exceed the scheduled number of 1,200 invitations for the examinations by about 15%, so as to ensure that the first course will actually be attended by a quarter of the functionaries involved in this military training program.
3. The Bureaus of the Bezirk Headquarters are responsible for ensuring that by 15 July 1955 the Section Leitende Organe of the Central Committee has received tabulations containing the names of all examined functionaries and of those who have been found physically fit for the first course. In these tabulations each Kreis has to have its own section.

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4. All organizational and technical details, such as the time of departure and the question of personal items etc, will be settled by the Bezirk and Kreis registration offices.
5. Since the eight-week courses are not part of the holiday, it is necessary to avoid overlapping of holiday time and training course. All functionaries selected for the first course have to be prepared for their call-up after 25 July 1955. During the course, no leave will be granted. The Bezirk and Kreis Headquarters will take steps to enable students to catch up with the loss of time caused by the training course.

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